

## Amendments to the claims

**1. (Currently amended)**

A method for carrying energy from one location to another, comprising;

obtaining aluminum metal from a first location;

reacting said aluminum metal with water in a catalytic reaction wherein sodium hydroxide is a catalyst ~~and is not chemically consumed therein, thereby splitting said water into~~ producing hydrogen, oxygen and forming a clean aluminum derivative substantially free of sodium-containing compound;

converting said hydrogen into energy at a second location; and

returning said aluminum derivative to an aluminum foundry for conversion thereof to aluminum metal.

**2 -7. (Cancelled)****8. (New)**

A method for carrying energy from one location to another, comprising;

obtaining aluminum metal from a first location;

reacting said aluminum metal with water in a catalytic reaction wherein sodium hydroxide is a catalyst, thereby producing hydrogen according to a molecular ratio water/hydrogen of one to one, and forming a clean aluminum derivative;

converting said hydrogen into energy at a second location; and

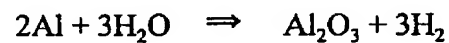
returning said aluminum derivative to an aluminum foundry for conversion thereof to aluminum metal.

9. (New)

A method for carrying energy from one location to another, comprising;

obtaining aluminum metal from a first location;

reacting said aluminum metal with water in a catalytic reaction wherein sodium hydroxide is a catalyst, thereby producing hydrogen and alumina according to the formula



converting said hydrogen into energy at a second location; and

returning said alumina to an aluminum foundry for conversion thereof to aluminum metal.